

# Optimizing Basis Wave Functions in the Generator Coordinate Method for Microscopic Cluster Models (I)\*

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We employ random distributions and gradient descent methods for the Generator Coordinate Method (GCM) to identify effective basis wave functions, taking halo nuclei  ${}^6\text{He}$  and  ${}^6\text{Li}$  as examples. By comparing the ground state ( $0^+$ ) energy of  ${}^6\text{He}$  and the excited state ( $0^+$ ) energy of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  calculated with various random distributions and manually selected generation coordinates, we found that the heavy-tail characteristic of the Logistic distribution better describes the features of the halo nuclei. Subsequently, the Adam algorithm from machine learning was applied to optimize the basis wave functions, indicating that a limited number of basis wave functions can approximate the converged values. These results offer some empirical insights for selecting basis wave functions and contribute to the broader application of machine learning methods in predicting effective basis wave functions.

Keywords: Generator Coordinate Method · Effective basis wave functions · Nuclear cluster model · Machine learning · Halo nuclei

## I. INTRODUCTION

Clustering is a universal phenomenon observed in various systems, ranging from clusters of galaxies to clusters of nuclei [1–4]. In nuclear physics, clustering is one of the most important features in light nuclei [5–9]. Since the development of the  $\alpha$  cluster model, light nuclei have been studied from the perspective of cluster features for more than half a century [10–12]. Meanwhile, various nuclear theories have been put forward to investigate nuclear clustering [13–17]. The three traditional nuclear cluster models include the Resonance Group Method (RGM) [18–20], Generator Coordinate Method (GCM) [21–23], Orthogonality Condition Model (OCM) [24]. Some developed models such as the Antisymmetrized Molecular Dynamics (AMD) model [25–27] and the Tohsaki-Horiuchi-Schuck-Röpke (THSR) model [28] have also been introduced in recent years.

The Generator Coordinate Method (GCM) was first introduced by Hill and Wheeler [21] in 1953 in the context of nuclear fission. Subsequently, the method was extended by Griffin and Wheeler to a general many-body tool [22]. The principle of the GCM is to express nuclear state wave functions as superpositions of the non-orthogonal basis functions, such as Slater determinants [29]. Since the flexibility in selecting the basis functions or generator coordinates, GCM offers a general method for addressing many-body problems in nuclear cluster physics and some other fields [30–34].

The GCM requires the superposition of different types of

basis wave functions, showcasing its flexibility. However, selecting the basis states is a crucial issue in some cases. The choice of collective coordinates often relies on empirical and phenomenological methods, which increases complexity and computational time for many-body cluster systems. This issue is especially pronounced when applying the GCM to the structure of halo nuclei such as  ${}^6\text{He}$ , a well-known Borromean nucleus. It comprises a loosely bound and spatially extended three-body system, typically including the  $\alpha$  core surrounded by two weakly bound neutrons  $\alpha + n + n$  [35–37]. Using more efficient basis states in the GCM to accurately describe such three-body gas-like systems is an important issue [38].

In recent years, there has been a lot of theoretical work [39, 40] exploring how to select effective basis states for the GCM. For example, Suzuki and Varga introduced stochastic sampling in the few-body model [41]; Suhara and Kanada-En'yo have proposed the  $\beta - \gamma$  constrained selection of Slater determinants in nuclear cluster model [42]; Additionally, Fukuoka et al. developed the imaginary-time evolution method in the mean-field model [43]; And Takatoshi et al. refined the Bloch-Brink  $\alpha$  cluster model with the stochastic sampling method [44]. Due to the powerful data processing capabilities of Machine learning algorithms (ML), it got widely employed in addressing different nuclear physics issues including nuclear mass systematics [45–47], radii prediction [48], decay descriptions [49], many-body problems [50, 51], nuclear structure [52, 53], etc. It has attempted to dig out the hidden laws from a large amount of historical data and use it for prediction or classification.

In this article, choosing the di-neutron halo nucleus of  ${}^6\text{He}$  ( $\alpha + n + n$ ) and the proton-neutron halo of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  ( $\alpha + n + p$ ) systems, we study the effective basis problems in GCM, from the global optimization and the local gradient descent methods. Firstly, the empirical law of effective basis wave functions distribution is summarized by comparing various random distributions. Then, Adam method [54–56] is used to

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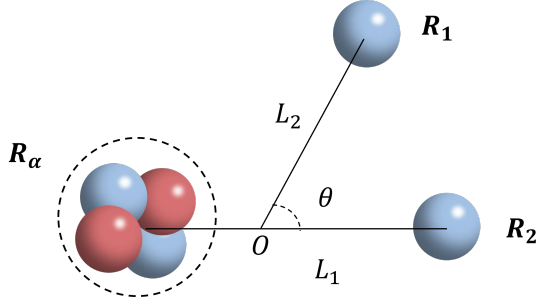


Fig. 1. This schematic figure illustrates the Brink wave function of  ${}^6\text{He}$  ( $\alpha + n + n$ ). Blue spheres represent neutrons, while red spheres denote protons. The  $\alpha$  cluster and the two neutrons are aligned in the same plane.

provide a better standard of basis wave functions.

This paper is organized in the following way. Sec. II briefly reviews the framework of the wave function and the Generator Coordinate Method. In Sec. III, the numerical results of optimization and discussions are provided. Finally, a summary is provided in Sec. IV.

## II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The general ansatz of the Generator Coordinate Method [22] can be expressed,

$$|\Psi_{\text{GCM}}\rangle = \int d\mathbf{q} |\Phi(\mathbf{q})\rangle f(\mathbf{q}). \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{q} = (q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n)$  denote a series of generator coordinates. The  $f(\mathbf{q})$  is known as the weight function. The trial wave function  $|\Phi(\mathbf{q})\rangle$  is important, as it should be based on the specific motion patterns of the physical system. The GCM approach offers the benefit of obtaining ground states and various categories of excited states that are described by the selected generator coordinates.

In nuclear cluster physics, the Brink wave function [57] is usually used as the basis wave function for GCM calculations. Taking  ${}^6\text{He}$  as an example, the Brink wave function with the  $\alpha + n + n$  cluster configuration can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2, \mathbf{R}_\alpha) &= \mathcal{A} \{ \Phi_n(\mathbf{R}_1) \Phi_n(\mathbf{R}_2) \Phi_\alpha(\mathbf{R}_\alpha) \} \\ \Phi_\alpha(\mathbf{R}_\alpha) &= \mathcal{A} \left\{ \prod_{i=3}^6 \phi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}_i) \chi_i \tau_i \right\} \\ \Phi_n(\mathbf{R}) &= \phi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}_i) \chi_i \tau_i \\ \phi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}_i) &= \left( \frac{1}{\pi b^2} \right)^{3/4} e^{-\frac{(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R})^2}{2b^2}}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Here, the wave function  $\Phi_\alpha$  represents the  $\alpha$ -cluster with a configuration of  $(0s)^4$ , and the valence neutron wave function is denoted as  $\Phi_n$ .  $\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2$  and  $\mathbf{R}_\alpha$  represent the generator coordinates of  $\alpha$  particles and two neutrons, abbreviated

as  $\{\mathbf{R}\} = \{\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2, \mathbf{R}_\alpha\}$ .  $\phi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}_i) \chi_i \tau_i$  describes the  $i$ -th single-particle wave function, with  $\phi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}_i)$  specifying the spatial wave function. The spin and isospin for each nucleon are denoted by  $\chi_i$  and  $\tau_i$ , respectively. The spins of two valence neutrons are set to be up and down, respectively. The harmonic oscillator parameter  $b = \sqrt{1/(2\nu)} = 1.46$  fm to avoid spurious center-of-mass problems in this work, which is identical to the one used in Ref. [58, 59]. The microscopic cluster wave function of  ${}^6\text{Li}(\alpha + n + p)$  can be constructed similarly.

Within the GCM framework, the final wave function of  ${}^6\text{He}$  can be obtained by superposing various configurations of  $\alpha + n + n$ .

$$\Psi_M^{J\pi} = \sum_{\{\mathbf{R}\}K} f_{\{\mathbf{R}\}K} P_{MK}^J P^\pi \Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}), \quad (3)$$

where  $P_{MK}^J$  and  $P^\pi$  denote the angular-momentum and parity projector, respectively. For convenience in notation, here we write  $P_{MK}^J P^\pi \Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}) = \Phi_{MK}^{J\pi}(\{\mathbf{R}\})$ . Then, the coefficients  $f_{\{\mathbf{R}\}K}$  can be calculated using the Hill-Wheeler equation [29]

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\{\mathbf{R}'\}K'} f_{\{\mathbf{R}'\}K'} \left[ \langle \Phi_{MK}^{J\pi}(\{\mathbf{R}\}) | \hat{H} | \Phi_{MK'}^{J\pi}(\{\mathbf{R}'\}) \rangle - \right. \\ \left. E \langle \Phi_{MK}^{J\pi}(\{\mathbf{R}\}) | \Phi_{MK'}^{J\pi}(\{\mathbf{R}'\}) \rangle \right] = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Changing the values in the generated coordinate set  $\{\mathbf{R}\}$ , we can obtain various basis wave functions. Note that as long as the number of superposed basis wave functions is sufficiently large, the final wave function will be highly accurate. However, this approach results in significant computational time. Fortunately, not all basis wave functions are equally important. Therefore, selecting effective basis wave functions can achieve the same effect as superposing a large number of them, but with fewer effective wave functions. The objective of this work is to select effective basis wave functions characterized by the generated coordinate set  $\{\mathbf{R}\}$  from both global and local perspectives.

The Hamiltonian for  ${}^6\text{He}$  and  ${}^6\text{Li}$  three-body systems can be written as:

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{i=1}^A \hat{t}_i - \hat{T}_{c.m.} + \sum_{i<j}^A \hat{v}_N + \sum_{i<j}^A \hat{v}_C + \sum_{i<j}^A \hat{v}_{LS}. \quad (5)$$

Where  $t_i$  represents the kinetic energies of individual nucleons and the center of mass is denoted by  $T_{c.m.}$ .  $v_N$ ,  $v_C$ , and  $v_{LS}$  denote the effective nucleon-nucleon interaction, the Coulomb interaction and spin-orbit interaction, respectively. And the Volkov No.2 interaction [60] is employed for the nucleon-nucleon interaction. The expression is given as

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{v}_N = & \left( W - M \hat{P}^\sigma \hat{P}^\tau + B \hat{P}^\sigma - H \hat{P}^\tau \right) \\ & \times \left[ V_1 \exp(-r^2/c_1^2) + V_2 \exp(-r^2/c_2^2) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The parameters are set as follows:  $W = 0.4$ ,  $M = 0.6$ . For  ${}^6\text{He}$ ,  $B = H = 0.125$  [10]; For  ${}^6\text{Li}$ ,  $B = H = 0.08$  [61]. Regarding the Gaussian terms, the values are  $V_1 = -60.65$  MeV,  $V_2 = 61.14$  MeV,  $c_1 = 1.80$  fm, and  $c_2 = 1.01$  fm. For the spin-orbit interaction, the G3RS potential [62, 63] is adopted,

$$\hat{v}_{LS} = V_0 \left( e^{d_1 r^2} - e^{d_2 r^2} \right) \hat{P}_{31} \hat{L} \cdot \hat{S}. \quad (7)$$

The strength parameter  $V_0$  is fixed at 2000 MeV. The Gaussian parameters  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  are configured to  $5.0 \text{ fm}^{-2}$  and  $2.778 \text{ fm}^{-2}$ , respectively.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, we take the di-neutron halo nucleus  ${}^6\text{He}$  and the proton-neutron halo nucleus  ${}^6\text{Li}$  as examples, each conceptualized as three-cluster structures  $\alpha + n + n$  and  $\alpha + n + p$ , respectively. Firstly, we summarize empirical laws using random distribution methods when in global perspectives. Subsequently, at the local insight, the Adam algorithm from machine learning is introduced to optimize the generation coordinates through gradient descent theory.

#### A. Searching for specific distributions leading to effective basis wave functions

In the GCM, the mesh points for the generator coordinates are not predetermined. Although it is theoretically feasible to achieve exact solutions by enumerating a large number of wave functions with different configurations, this approach is computationally impractical. Instead, we hypothesize that effective basis wave functions may follow specific distributions. To test this hypothesis, we generate coordinate sets  $\{\mathbf{R}\}$  using various random distributions and apply them to calculate the ground state energy of the di-neutron halo nucleus  ${}^6\text{He}$ . By analyzing the relationship between the number of superimposed basis wave functions and the resulting ground state energies, we aim to derive global empirical rules that can enhance the efficiency of the GCM.

As a benchmark test, we first calculate the ground state of the di-neutron halo  ${}^6\text{He}$  nucleus using traditional mesh points for Brink wave functions. As shown in Fig. 1, different sets of coordinates can be generated by adjusting the relative distances  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$ , and the angle  $\theta$  relative to the  $x$ -axis. Where  $L_1$  is the distance between the  $\alpha$  particle and the neutron, and  $L_2$  is the distance between the other neutron and the center-of-mass of the  $\alpha$  particle and the neutron. Subsequently, various configurations with different sets  $(L_1, L_2, \theta)$  are superposed. Mesh points for  $L_1$  were established at intervals of 0.35 fm, resulting in 14 points, whereas for  $L_2$ , the intervals were set at 0.5 fm, accumulating 18 points. The values for angle  $\theta$  were sequentially determined as  $0^\circ$ ,  $30^\circ$ ,  $60^\circ$ , and  $90^\circ$ . By employing this traditional method, a total of 1008 basis wave functions were generated. Subsequently,

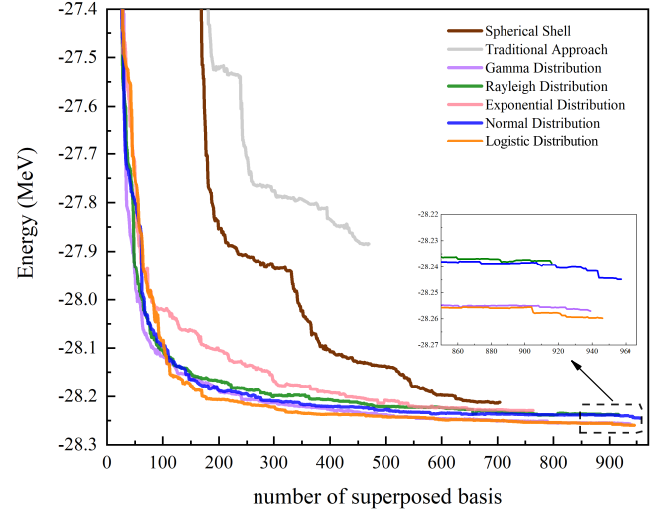


Fig. 2. Energy convergence of the ground state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{He}$  using various methods to generate basis wave functions. The brown and gray lines represent the results from the spherical shell and traditional methods, respectively. The curves in other colors represent the calculation result of the generated coordinates generated by the random distribution.

the ground state energy was computed after diagonalization. Due to large overlap between some wave functions or their lack of physical significance, 539 out of the initial 1008 basis wave functions were removed during the calculations. This outcome is shown in the last column of Table 1, along with other results recorded in the same table. Furthermore, Fig. 2 displays how the energy varies with the superposition of wave functions.

Another common method for selecting mesh points is to distribute them within a spherical shell structure. The spherical structure of the latter is depicted as a three-dimensional, multi-layered spherical shell. The initial radius of the spherical shell is set at 1 fm, with spacing between adjacent layers also at 1 fm, producing a total of five layers from the inside out. To ensure the uniform distribution of points on each spherical shell, the Marsaglia algorithm [64] is employed. For each layer, 200 random three-dimensional coordinate values are generated. Following a procedure similar to the earlier one, the coordinates of the total 1000 points generated are designated as  $\mathbf{R}_{1i} (x_{1i}, y_{1i}, z_{1i})$ . This randomization process is repeated three times to acquire the generation coordinates for the  $\alpha$  particle and two neutrons. By superposing these 1000 basis wave functions, the ground state of  ${}^6\text{He}$  is calculated. The detailed information about results is shown in Fig. 2 and Table 1.

In addition to the above common methods, we here also introduce some other random distribution functions for generating mesh points, such as Gamma distribution, Uniform distribution, Chi-square distribution, Logistic distribution and Nor-

Table 1. Comparison of the different methods to generate basis wave functions. The calculated ground state energies of  ${}^6\text{He}$  (MeV) and the number of superposed basis are listed.

Distribution Model	Probability Density Function	Parameters	$E(\text{MeV})$	Superposed Basis
Spherical Shell	—	—	-28.212	704
Traditional Approach	—	—	-27.884	469
Gamma Distribution	$f(x; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}}$	$\alpha = 2.3, \beta = 1.5$	-28.257	939
Rayleigh Distribution	$f(x; \sigma) = \frac{x}{\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}}$	$\sigma = 3.0$	-28.239	916
Exponential Distribution	$f(x; \lambda) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$	$\lambda = 0.5$	-28.229	764
Normal Distribution	$f(x; \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$	$(\mu = 0), \sigma = 2.3$	-28.245	957
Logistic Distribution	$f(x; \mu, \gamma) = \frac{e^{-(x-\mu)/\gamma}}{\gamma(1+e^{-(x-\mu)/\gamma})^2}$	$(\mu = 0), \gamma = 1.2$	-28.260	946

mal distribution. Considering the halo feature of  ${}^6\text{He}$ , which is characterized by a diffuse density distribution around the nuclear, specific parameters for the various random distribution functions have been selectively determined to assess their impact on the tail region. Although no quantitative relationships for parameter values under different distributions have been specified, we fortuitously discovered that the results remain relatively stable within a reasonable range of parameter values after experimenting with various settings. The probability density functions and specific parameter values for the random distributions are detailed in Table 1. Furthermore, GCM calculations are performed within the center-of-mass coordinate system; Consequently, the results depend solely on the relative distances between clusters. Thus, in the Normal and Logistic distributions, the results are influenced only by the standard deviation  $\sigma$ , independent of the mean  $\mu$ . For computational convenience,  $\mu$  is set to 0 in these cases. Each random distribution is utilized to generate 1000 basis wave functions for GCM calculations.

Fig. 2 shows the energy convergence of the ground state using the various methods presented here to generate basis wave functions. As one can see, the convergence rate of the energy variation curves corresponding to random distributions is significantly faster than that derived from manually configured structures. Table 1 is also displayed to provide qualitative insights. The ground state energies obtained using traditional and spherical shell methods are -27.884 MeV and -28.212 MeV, respectively, both of which are obviously higher than those from all random distributions.

From Fig. 2 and Table 1, it is interesting to see that the Logistic distributions outperform other random distributions, with the  $0^+$  state energies calculated at -28.260 MeV. Note that the Gamma distribution is also effective, while it is determined by two parameters  $(\alpha, \beta)$ , which provide a wider range of adjustments. The single-parameter Normal and Logistic distributions offer significant advantages in practical calculations. This superiority is attributed to the assumption of independence in the Normal distribution, which mirrors the relative spatial nearly independence of the clusters in nuclei. Furthermore, the thicker asymptotic tails of the probability density function in the Normal distribution closely correspond to

the halo characteristics of  ${}^6\text{He}$ . Similarly, although the Logistic distribution resembles the Normal distribution, it features notably heavier tails. This characteristic better captures the extended features of the  ${}^6\text{He}$  halo nucleus structure, thereby encompassing a broader distribution of effective basis states.

To substantiate this conclusion further, we compare the ground state energy by maintaining approximate equality between the standard deviations of the Logistic and Normal distributions according to the theoretical formula  $\gamma = (\sqrt{3}\sigma)/\pi$ . In this case, the two distributions have similar shapes but slightly different tail thicknesses. We selected four sets of generation coordinates with varying parameters for comparison, where each set generates 1000 basic wave functions. Specifically, the parameters for the Logistic distribution were set at  $\gamma = 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5$  and for the Normal distribution at  $\sigma = 1.8, 2.0, 2.3, 2.5$ . The calculated ground state ( $0^+$ ) energies of  ${}^6\text{He}$  are presented in Table 2, while Fig. 3 illustrates the energy convergences with the increasing number of basis. From Table 2, it can be seen that among the computations employing Normal distributions, the best performance is achieved with a standard deviation  $\sigma$  of 2.3, where the ground state energy converges to -28.245 MeV. Conversely, for  $\sigma$  values of 1.8, 2.0, and 2.5, the energies converge to -28.224 MeV, -28.222 MeV, and -28.231 MeV, respectively. On the other hand, the Logistic distribution clearly outperforms the Normal distribution, with ground state energies uniformly converging around -28.26 MeV. Notably, even at its poorest performance with a parameter  $\gamma = 1.2$ , the energy convergence reaches -28.260 MeV, surpassing the mean performance of the Normal distribution groups. Additionally, Fig. 3 illustrates that the rate of energy convergence for the Logistic distribution group is substantially faster than that of the Normal distribution group, thereby exhibiting greater robustness. It indicates that the Logistic distribution includes a more effective basis, which could be due to its heavy tail part.

It is worth mentioning that the ground state ( $1^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  converges rapidly, requiring only a minimal number of basis wave functions. Calculations using various parameters for the Logistic and Normal distributions also quickly converge to approximately -30.02 MeV, indicating that there is no need for further optimization of the basis wave functions. As a



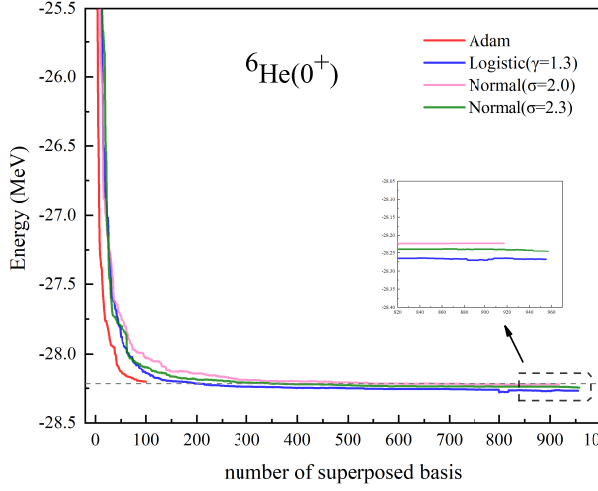


Fig. 3. Energy convergence of the ground state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{He}$ . To compare the results of Normal distribution and Logistic distribution, 1000 ground state wave functions are generated using four sets of different parameters. In addition, the red line denotes the results of Adam optimization.

Table 2. The numerical results of the ground state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{He}$ , from the calculations of Logistic distribution and Normal distribution with different parameters.

Distribution	Parameters	$E(\text{MeV})$
Logistic Distribution	$\gamma = 1.2$	-28.260
	$\gamma = 1.3$	-28.268
	$\gamma = 1.4$	-28.262
	$\gamma = 1.5$	-28.266
Normal Distribution	$\sigma = 1.8$	-28.224
	$\sigma = 2.0$	-28.222
	$\sigma = 2.3$	-28.245
	$\sigma = 2.5$	-28.231

result, further discussion of the  ${}^6\text{Li}$  ground state is omitted in this work.

To confirm the possible aforementioned conclusions and ascertain the universality of the Logistic distribution in halo nuclear structures, we also studied the excited states ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  and generated three sets of Logistic and Normal distributions under conditions of similar standard deviations for comparative analysis. Parameters for the Logistic distribution were set at  $\gamma = 1.0, 1.3$ , and  $1.5$ , while those for the Normal distribution were set at  $\sigma = 1.8, 2.0$ , and  $2.3$ . Considering the proton-neutron halo structure of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , whose excited state energy converges more readily than the ground state energy of  ${}^6\text{He}$ , we generated 400 basis wave functions for each parameter set to perform GCM calculations. The results are displayed in Fig. 4 and Table 3. It is gratifying to observe that compared with the Normal distribution, the Logistic distribution still performs well in each group. According to the exci-

tation energy of the  $0^+$  state in Table 3, it can be observed that the Logistic distribution parameters  $\gamma$  set at 1.0, 1.3, and 1.5 yield convergence values of energy at  $-27.945$  MeV,  $-27.999$  MeV, and  $-28.013$  MeV, respectively. These values slightly surpass those derived from Normal distribution parameters  $\sigma$  set at 1.8, 2.0, and 2.3, which result in energy convergences of  $-27.933$  MeV,  $-27.969$  MeV, and  $-27.991$  MeV. As shown in Fig. 4, the energy gradually converges as the number of basis wave functions increases, with the Logistic distribution exhibiting a slightly faster rate of convergence compared to the Normal distribution. These results indicate that the thick-tail characteristic of the Logistic distribution is not only suitable for calculating the ground state ( $0^+$ ) energy of  ${}^6\text{He}$  with di-neutron halo, but also applicable to the excited state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  with proton-neutron halo. Furthermore, the Logistic distribution encompasses a broader range of effective basis wave functions, providing crucial empirical insights for the subsequent selection of effective basis wave functions. Analyzing the underlying mechanisms behind this distribution could be important.

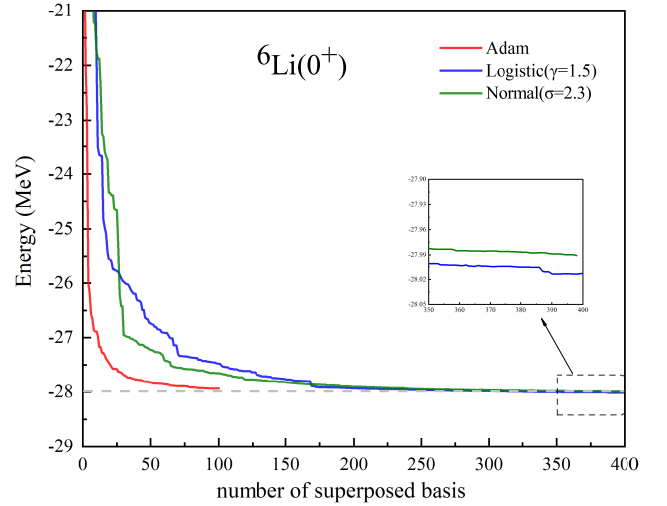


Fig. 4. Energy convergence of the excited state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ . To compare the results of Normal distribution and Logistic distribution, 400 wave functions are generated using three sets of different parameters. The red line represents the results of Adam optimization.

## B. Adam optimization based on gradient descent principle

In GCM calculations, finding an appropriate distribution of optimized basis wave functions is of paramount importance for practical computations. On the other hand, studying the optimal basis wave functions mathematically from a local level is also indispensable.

As shown in Eq. (3), the eigen energy  $E$  can be considered

Table 3. The numerical results of the excited state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , from the calculations of Logistic distribution and Normal distribution with different parameters.

Distribution	Parameters	$E(\text{MeV})$
Logistic Distribution	$\gamma = 1.0$	-27.945
	$\gamma = 1.3$	-27.999
	$\gamma = 1.5$	-28.013
Normal Distribution	$\sigma = 1.8$	-27.933
	$\sigma = 2.0$	-27.969
	$\sigma = 2.3$	-27.991

as a multivariable function with a set of  $\{\mathbf{R}\}$  as its independent variables. Thus, solving for the energy using the variational principle is analogous to finding the minimum of a multivariable function  $f(\{\mathbf{R}\}_1, \{\mathbf{R}\}_2, \dots, \{\mathbf{R}\}_i)$ . The computational procedure for optimizing a superposition of 100 basis wave functions is as follows. To begin this process, a random set of generating coordinates  $\{\{\mathbf{R}\}_1, \{\mathbf{R}\}_2, \dots, \{\mathbf{R}\}_i\}$  is created as the starting position. For the first basis wave function  $\Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}_1)$ , it is necessary to calculate the energy gradient in order to adjust the coordinates  $\{\mathbf{R}\}_1$  in the direction of the gradient. When a local minimum is reached, this position is recorded as the effective basis wave function location  $\{\mathbf{R}\}_1^{opt}$ . Next, for the second basis wave function  $\Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}_2)$ , we need to superimpose it onto the previously optimized  $\{\mathbf{R}\}_1^{opt}$ . This results in a simplified expression for the wave function as  $\Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}_1^{opt}) + \Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}_2)$ . Then, only the coordinates  $\{\mathbf{R}\}_2$  are adjusted in the direction of the gradient, while the coordinates  $\Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}_1^{opt})$  are held constant. Once the local minimum is achieved, the current position is designated the effective basis wave function position  $\Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}_2^{opt})$ . For the third basis wave function  $\Phi(\{\mathbf{R}\}_3)$ , the same procedure is followed. The adjustment process will focus solely on the coordinates  $\{\mathbf{R}\}_3$  in the direction of the gradient, keeping  $\{\mathbf{R}\}_1^{opt}$  and  $\{\mathbf{R}\}_2^{opt}$  constant. This method is repeated for each subsequent wave function, ensuring that the optimized coordinates remain fixed while the new coordinates undergo gradient descent. This iterative approach continues until all basis wave functions are optimized. In principle, with sufficient computational precision, a set of optimal generating coordinates for the basis wave functions can be obtained.

Here we use the Adam algorithm for gradient descent [54]. The Adam algorithm was chosen for its efficiency in optimizing basis wave functions, particularly in handling complex and flat energy surfaces. By adapting learning rates and leveraging historical gradients, Adam outperforms traditional methods, reducing computational costs and improving convergence speed. This makes it well-suited for challenging calculations like those involving halo nuclei.

Given the gradual slowing of energy convergence with an increasing number of basis wave functions, distinct treatments were applied to the initial and terminal functions. In the early superposition phase, due to the rapid decrease in energy, the Adam algorithm's learning rate  $\alpha$  was set at 0.3 with a maximum iteration count of 12 and an allowance for four oscillations to prevent missing minimal value points. When reaching the fifth wave function, as the rate of energy decline

slowed, the learning rate was adjusted to 0.7 with the maximum iterations increased to 40 and oscillations allowed up to eight to minimize time consumption.

Although Sec. III A shows the Logistic distribution outperforming Normal distributions and other models, we used the Normal distribution with  $\sigma = 2.3$  to generate 100 initial coordinates  $\{\mathbf{R}\}$  for clearer comparative analysis. The optimization results for the ground state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{He}$ , as shown in Fig. 3. Compared to  $-28.064$  MeV with unoptimized basis wave functions, the energy significantly decreases to  $-28.203$  MeV after Adam optimization. Even compared to the well-performing Normal distribution, the superposition of 100 optimized basis wave functions through the Adam method equates to the effects of adding 200 or even 500 basis wave functions in the Normal distribution. This outcome not only confirms the feasibility and effectiveness of gradient descent optimization using the Adam method but also demonstrates that a small number of basis wave functions can achieve the effects of superposing multiple wave functions, and that Adam optimization includes a large number of effective basis wave functions.

To further validate this conclusion, the Adam algorithm was applied unchanged to the calculation of the excited state ( $0^+$ ) energy of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , with results depicted in Fig. 4. Compared to  $-27.656$  MeV with non-optimized basis wave functions, the energy decreases significantly to  $-27.937$  MeV after Adam optimization. Compared with other parameter settings in the Normal distribution, the superposition effect of 100 optimized basis wave functions is equivalent to adding 200–300 ones in the Normal distribution. This suggests that there is still room for improvement in finding better distributions for mesh points in GCM.

#### IV. SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

To conclude, we investigated effective basis wave function distributions for the di-neutron halo nucleus  ${}^6\text{He}$  and the proton-neutron halo nucleus  ${}^6\text{Li}$  using the Generator Coordinate Method. From a global perspective, our comparative analysis of various random distributions against manually configured models revealed that the Normal distribution performed significantly better than others, except for the Logistic distribution. This superior performance is attributed to the Normal distribution's independence assumption, which mirrors the relative spatial independence of the nuclei, and its probability density function's heavy tail, which resembles the diffuse characteristics typical of halo nuclei. Interestingly, the Logistic distribution, with its probability density curve similar to that of the Normal distribution but with a more pronounced tail, not only retained the advantages of the Normal distribution but also more accurately represented halo nuclear structures. In both the ground state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{He}$  and the excited state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ , the Logistic distribution yielded better results than the Normal distribution, suggesting that it encompasses a broader range of effective basis wave functions and reduces the number of necessary wave function overlays for halo structures.

Furthermore, from a local viewpoint, we analogized the optimization of basis wave functions to solving a multivariate extremum problem and employed the Adam algorithm to optimize 100 basis wave functions, achieving considerable outcomes. The results for both the ground state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{He}$  and the excited state ( $0^+$ ) of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  indicated that a few optimized basis wave functions could achieve the effects of multiple wave functions overlays, thus validating the feasibility and universality of the gradient descent method. This not only provides a benchmark for selecting effective basis wave functions but also make a solid foundation for future applications of machine learning methods to com-

prehensively predict the coordinates of effective basis wave functions. Although the Adam algorithm currently requires extensive runtime due to computational constraints, future research will focus on optimizing it to enhance computational efficiency.

## V. REFERENCES

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